



THE BACON BANJO COMPANY, INC.

GROTON, CONNECTICUT

4/16/40

B & D
SILVER
BELL
BANJOS

NEW
MODEL
BACON
& DAY
GUITARS
and
MANDOLINS

B & D Super
Strings

A. T. Sharpe
P.O. M. G.

London, W. D.

Dear Mr Sharpe your letter received
some time ago addressed to Mr. Fred
V. Bacon had been mislaid and sorry to
send you a somewhat belated reply.
I am forwarding this to him in the State
of Vermont where he has been for some
few years - since 1932 - where he has
been teaching in local communities &
gives three or four Festival Quarts a year
with about 50 players - mostly banjos -
He is the outstanding 5 string Banjo soloist
of our country, playing with the fingers
and has appeared in all parts of the United
States - you will no doubt hear from
him in reply to the questions you ask
although some of his old time friends say
they do not hear from him very much - no
doubt with his work arranging, teaching &c
he does not have much time with other duties
to attend to same.

EXPERT REPAIRING—BANJOS AND GUITARS

"PLAY SAFE"—ALWAYS USE "B & D SUPER STRINGS."

I usually call on him once a year and we
have a nice get together and talk -
I usually travel two trips a year about 1500
miles west from here meeting the different
players and teachers in the various cities
but not have done this for past 2 yrs. or so -
always a pleasure to see them Roy Smuck,
Stephen & John Charles Tatham, Charles
Rothemmel, Wm. C. Stahl, Walter Holt
Giuseppe Tettoni - Pres. of the American Guild of
P.B. M.G. - Frank O. Bradbury - so many
years I string bango soloist at Guild Conventions -
in fact last 4 yrs I again this year in Cincinnati
Joseph Ciggitola the Guilds able Sec - and his
many others - also should mention C.W. Gould
& Hank Harch - the latter being the Guild
Convention Mgr. for 1916 - Happened to have a
somewhat marred sheet, which I trust you
will excuse, of publicity for W. Gould - also
some few years ago 1916 -
Joseph Cullen (Cullen) of Washington - District
of Columbia - our Nations Capital is one of the
first I believe to make a bango record, it
was on a wax cylinder, Columbia record -
Vess Osman Sr. was a later artist whose records
for years enjoyed a wonderful popularity - He
visited England during the reign of King Edward
& Queen Victoria and was entertained by
Royalty - one place being at Royal Regatta
off the Isle of Wight.

You probably have names of others who made
banjo records and were prominent in the
banjo world. Was sorry to learn a short
time ago of the passing of Ruby Brooks
one of the old time artists of the ^{Banjo} team
of Brooks & Denton - New York City. I'm sure
I am pleased to state being with us at this
time - another well known teacher and guitar
player Wm. P. Hovey - Lowell, Massachusetts -
last of the members of the Boston. Social
Banjo Mandolin & Guitar Club who toured
this country so many years under the guidance
of the well known artists Geo. Hanson and
A. D. Hoover - They had so much to do with
promoting interest in the fretted instruments -
W. J. Kitchener of New York City passed away
two years ago -

Will mail you a copy of the *Banjo*
Silver Bell Banjo Family - old issue published
about 1924 which may interest you and has
a picture of Mr. Bacon and the writer -
We are certainly sorry to know of the great
misfortune your country is going through at this
time and only hope it may come through
victorious so that your good work for the
Banjo Mandolin & Guitar may long continue
With my Best Wishes I beg to remain
Yours very truly
W. J. Kitchener



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W. L. Gray

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DAVID L. DAY. (From "Cadenza" Sept. 1922.)

After being intimately connected with the business of making banjos for thirty-nine years, and holding an active business association of eighteen years with the well-known Vega Co., of Boston, Mr. D. L. Day has resigned his position with this firm and accepted that of vice president and general manager of the Bacon Banjo Co., Inc., of Groton, Connecticut - manufacturers of the "Bacon" banjos and mandolin and ukulele products. The firm was originally founded by Frederick J. Bacon, the man long known to all fretted instrumentalists as a noted solo banjoist.

One week after graduation from school, young David embarked in business as an errand boy, office sweeper and doer of general odd jobs with the old Boston banjo concern, Fairbanks & Cole Co., many years ago - just how "many" we don't know and it was too delicate a question to put personally to D.L. At the time when he attached ~~himself~~ his valuable services as odd-job-boy to the concern the two members of the firm attended to all the factory work, excepting at such times when the junior member (Wm. A. Cole), then considered quite a banjoist, was occupied with his teaching. In 1892 Mr. Cole retired from the firm and the name was changed to A. C. Fairbanks & Co., with its factory located on Columbus Avenue, from 1892 to 1894.

In 1894 Mr. Fairbanks also retired from the business, the controlling interests of the old firm then being acquired by Messrs Dodge & Cummings who again changed the name to that of the A. C. Fairbanks Co., Inc. Up to the time of the last change Mr. Fairbanks had acted as travelling man for the firm, but upon his retirement the position seemed naturally to "descend" to Mr. Day. It was during all these years with the firm that Day gained his valuable experience in manufacturing and assembling, and later a thorough ~~knowledge~~ acquaintanceship with the "trade" throughout the country - a valuable asset which he never lost.

D. L. Day remained with A. C. Fairbanks Co., Inc., until 1904, in which year a very destructive fire completely destroyed the new quarters on Washington Street that the firm had then occupied for four years. In the adjustment following the fire, arrangements were consummated whereby the control of the Fairbanks business was taken over by the Vega Company, with which firm Mr. Day has remained as sales manager, traveling representative, and advertising factor up to the date of his present connection with the Bacon Banjo Company.

On Sept. 18th last, after eighteen years of active service with the same concern, Mr. Day officially assumed the duties of his new position.

RÊVE DE PRINTEMPS.

Pizzicato.

G. SGALLARI.

BANJO.

Moderato.

The first section of the piece is written for Banjo in 2/4 time. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked 'Moderato.' The first measure is marked 'mf trem.' and the second measure is marked 'pp'. The notation includes various chords and single notes, with some measures featuring a repeat sign and first/second endings. The section concludes with a 'Coda' symbol.

TRIO.

The Trio section begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (Bb). The tempo is marked 'pp'. The notation includes various chords and single notes, with some measures featuring a repeat sign and first/second endings. The section concludes with a 'Coda' symbol. The final measure is marked 'pp rall. e dim.'.

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